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UNIT 4 SPEECH

INTRO

Nat Turner. The Slave’s Prophet. Here is a picture of Nat Turner, one of the most famous slaves in all of American history. Today, I will tell you about his rebellion and acts that occurred around it. My objective is to LOOK AT POWERPOINT. You can write down the test question because I’ll go over it later in the presentation.

BODY

Nat Turner’s idea of possibly being told by God to do something started with early signs. When he was 23 years old, he ran away from the plantation he lived on. A month later, he returned to his life as a slave by going back to the plantation due to a vision from God. Another vision occurred on May 12, when Nat Turner "heard a loud noise in the heavens, and the Spirit instantly appeared to me and said the Serpent was loosened, and Christ had laid down the yoke he had borne for the sins of men, and that I should take it on and fight against the Serpent, for the time was fast approaching when the first should be last and the last should be first.” This basically meant to Turner that he should take it upon himself to slay his enemies. This was the first vision that began his thought about killing the slave owners. On February 12th, a black solar eclipse occurred, which Nat believed was a black man’s hand covering the sun, which took its place as a vision in his eyes. He didn’t yet begin his rebellion with this eclipse, but the one on August 13th. The sun was a bluish-green color, causing Nat to believe that was his final sign for he then started his rebellion a week later. In the background, a picture shows the sun after a solar eclipse. His rebellion was a short one, only about 48 hours, but still doing effective damage. One of the only known survivors was a little girl who hid in a fireplace. This picture was used in a newspaper the day after the incident. Within a day, the local militias were beginning to fight back against the large slave force. After the rebellion ended, the casualties suffered by both blacks and whites were high, as you see here POWERPOINT. Nat Turner hid after the rebellion for a few months. He remained out of sight from whites for a while until being found by Benjamin Phipps in a hole. He was immediately tried convicted, and sentenced to death. He was hung in Jerusalem, Virginia and then had his body purposely “disfigured” by the whites after his death. Three things happened after, one being he was flayed where you necessarily get skinned like an animal and this also is my test question answer. He was then beheaded, which you can probably realize means to have your head removed from your body and then finally quartered, which meant to READ POWERPOINT!

Conclusion: Now that you have listened to my presentation, you should have a basic understanding of what happened in Nat Turners later life. My topic relates to the theme of Expansion because